

First Time Moving Out Checklist

You have finally decided to venture on your own. Congratulations! However, before you get settled in your new home, you might want to consider the following list, as it can help you with the things you'll need for your new home.

For Your Living Room

One of the first rooms you need to spruce up is the living room of your new home. After all, it's the first room your visitors would see, and as proud owner of a new home, you want to make a lasting impression. So, you'll need the following:

- A couch or sofa
- Throw pillows
- Armchairs
- Coffee and end tables
- A lamp
- Floor rugs
- A TV stand or wall mount, whichever you prefer
- Curtains or blinds

Optional items are:

- Beanbags
- Paintings, wall decoration, artwork
- Bookshelves

For Your Kitchen and Dining Room

The kitchen is the heart of every home, so you need to pay close attention to details in this particular room of your house. Aside from stocking up on food, you will need these:

- Dining table and chairs
- Refrigerator and/or freezer
- Stove/oven
- Garbage can
- Cooking tools and utensils
- Flatware
- Dinnerware
- Drinking glasses
- Knife set
- Other essentials – oven mitts, salt and pepper shakers, cutting board, dish drying rack, pots, pans, storage containers in different sizes, and place mats

Optional kitchen stuff may include:

- Microwave oven
- A pantry (if you don't have one that's built-in to the kitchen)
- A breakfast nook/table

In Your Bedroom

As much as possible, you want to make this the coziest place in your home not only because you would be spending most of your time here but also because this is that one place where you can relax and unwind. You need to make this as comfortable and relaxing as possible.

- Bed (mattress, frame, and the works)
- Pillows
- Bed linens (pillowcases, blankets, sheets, comforter)
- Lamps
- Dresser and/or armoire
- Nightstands and/or night tables
- Alarm clock
- A cozy chair (for your reading corner)

Since a walk-in closet is part of the bedroom, you'll need the following:

- Laundry basket
- Hangers for your clothes and coats
- Wall mirror
- Shoe rack
- Coat rack
- Waste basket

In the Bathroom

Sometimes, the simplest items, like the ones you need for your bathroom, are the ones easily forgotten. Hence, it's important to include these in your list:

- Bath essentials (shampoo, conditioner, body wash, hand soap, lotion, and body scrubber/loofah)
- Toilet paper
- Oral hygiene essentials (toothbrush, toothpaste, mouthwash, and dental floss)
- Towels
- Shower curtain and rod

Of course, you need cleaning essentials for your bathroom, too:

- Plunger
- Toilet brush cleaner
- Garbage can
- Toilet bowl cleaner
- Disinfectant

Apart from the items mentioned above, you also need to stack up on cleaning supplies and appliances that you will use for your home upkeep:

- Sponges
- Rubber gloves
- All-purpose cleanser/cleaner
- Bleach
- Laundry soap
- Dryer sheets
- Washing machine
- Iron/ironing board
- Mop and bucket
- Broom and dust pan
- Hand towels
- Garbage cans and garbage bags

It's also important to have extra light bulbs, extension cords, flashlights, candles, matches, batteries in different sizes, power strips, tools, and a first-aid kit.

Looking at the list you've created, the first thing that might come to your mind is how much all of it would cost. However, with a bit of prodding, you might be able to convince your parents and even some of your friends for hand-me-downs. Otherwise, scour local thrift stores, go bargain hunting, or wait until you have enough in your bank account again before you start shopping for your own stuff as your budget would allow.